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MT. HOOD National Forest

1967

THROUGH THE FOREST ..... it is our responsibility to make the maximum contribution to the well-being and economy of the greatest number of people. The Mt. Hood National Forest is blessed with a diversity of opportunities to carry out this purpose.

From the more than one million acres we manage for you, it would be impossible to tabulate the total benefits derived. But we do know that with about 3,600,000 recreation visitors to the Forest in 1967, the production of billions of gallons of domestic and industrial water from the several watersheds, the harvest of 350 million board feet of timber, the grazing of livestock and wildlife, and the training of useful, productive young men at our Timber Lake Job Corps Center - the contribution is substantial.

This short report highlights some of our activities during the past year. We look forward to a year of expanded services and benefits in 1968.

Lloyd G. Gillmor

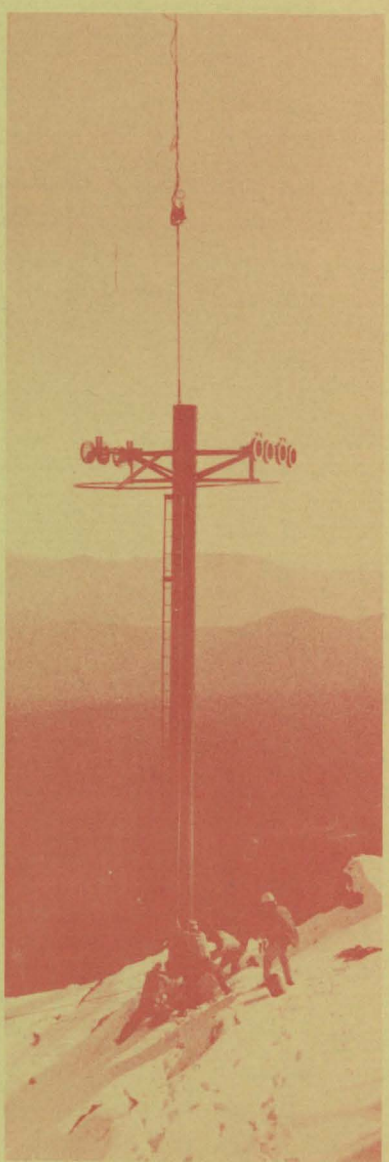
LLOYD G. GILLMOR
Forest Supervisor

THROUGH THE FOREST WANDER THE RECREATIONISTS; EAGER, ACTIVE, CURIOUS....

In 1967, over 3.6 million people visited our Forest. What is there about this Forest that draws them...LITTLE CRATER LAKE, 45 feet deep, amazingly clear, nestled in a high mountain meadow.....RAMONA FALLS, where along the trail, burned-out tree wells, 30 feet deep, tell the history of mud slides and Forest fires.....EAGLE CREEK TRAIL, blasted out of solid basalt, actually tunnels behind a falls....BULL OF THE WOODS, a roadless area where backpacker and fisherman can hike the many trails and fish the lakes literally alone.....MAGIC MILE CHAIRLIFT, which rises to the 7000 foot level, where a skier can ski downhill four miles to Government Camp.....Miles and miles of Forest roads through dense stands of Douglas-fir and open park-like areas of ponderosa pine..... BULL RUN NATURAL AREA for scientific study and observation... BARLOW ROAD, where the same route can be traversed like the pioneers of a hundred years before...SUNFLOWER FLAT, a rockhounders delight.....BAGBY HOT SPRINGS, with hot mineral baths in hewn cedar tubs.....BREITENBUSH LAKE, gateway to the Mt.Jefferson Area...INDIAN SPRINGS, great huckleberry picking.....MT. HOOD MEADOWS, east side snow with skiing in the sunshine...NORTH LAKE, a jewel on the top of the Columbia Gorge....with majestic Mt. Hood towering over all.

The Forest is the people, whether it is a family picnic group or a trail crew, mountain climber or snow ranger, Christmas tree cutter or tree planter, fisherman or fire fighter. People enjoy the features of the Forest, and it takes people to manage the public domain. It belongs to you and me, and the future generations. It is ours to use, to enjoy, and ours to protect.

TRILLIUM LAKE BASIN
SNOW TRAILS
BROCHURES
REGISTER



THROUGH THE FOREST TRACK THE HARDY: SKIERS, SNOWMOBILERS, SNOWSHOERS....

There is something exciting about the crunch of snow; whether it is children sledding at Snowbunny, mountaineers reaching the crest of the peak, or cross-country skiers journeying through the noiseless woods. Every year more families want to do more activities during the winter months, and each year new developments are there for them.

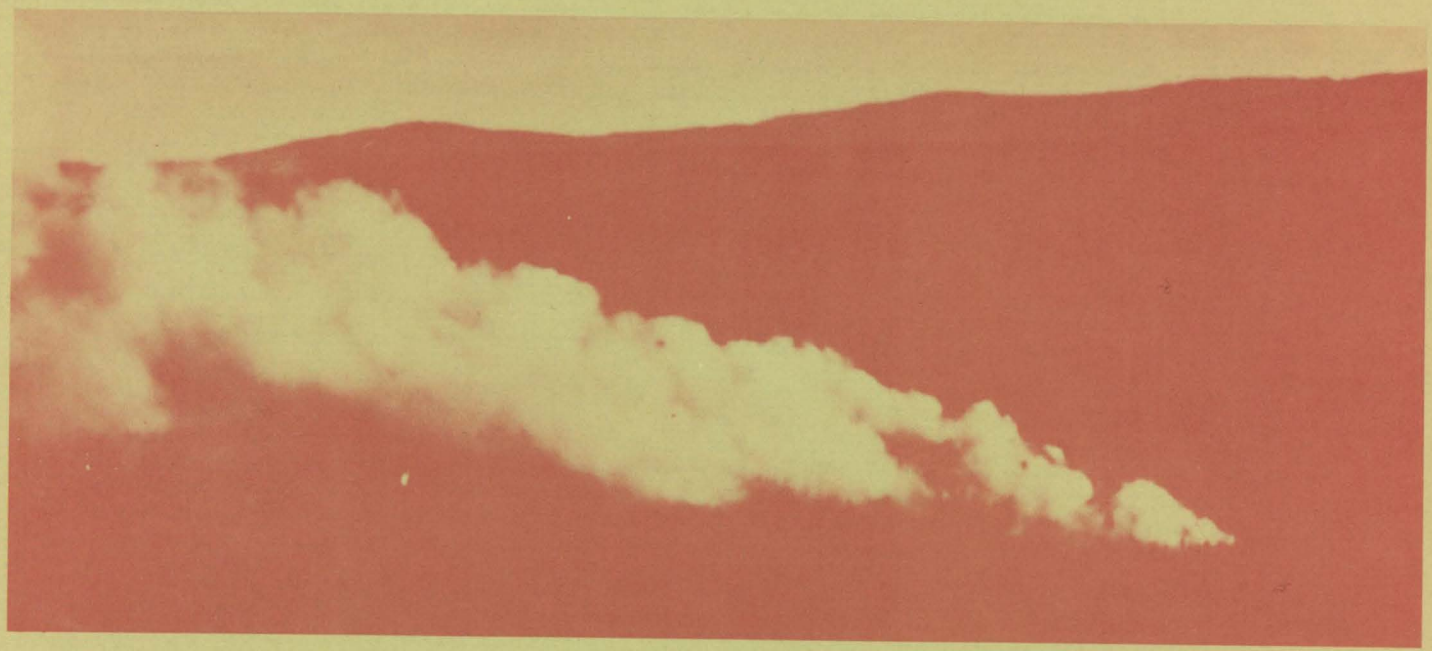
In the Trillium Lake Basin, a series of summer recreation roads have been marked and signed for wintertime use. These loop trails are for snow enthusiasts who want to do more than just downhill skiing. Snowshoeing, snowmobiling, cross country skiing and dog sledding can all be done in this area of rolling terrain. Trail maps and registration forms are located at the trailhead which is across Highway 26 from Snowbunny Lodge.

A long-awaited dream of the Forest Service and the Mt. Hood Ski Patrol was realized December 2nd, with the dedication of a first aid building in Government Camp. The modified A-frame structure has an office, treatment and wardroom on the main floor, with the second floor used for overnight accomodations for ski patrolmen and as storage for the akjas. The first aid building services the two trails from Timberline Lodge. During the summer months, the building will serve as a recreation information office.

Multorpor Mt., Inc. has completed a new day lodge at the Ski Bowl. The building is in tandem with the existing day lodge and has warming room, ski rental facility and coffee shop. On the slopes, new housings were built for the chairlift and rope tow drive mechanisms. The access road to the proposed new parking lot at Multorpor-Ski Bowl has been completed, and next summer the parking lot will be cleared, gravelled and paved. At Timberline. new runs have been cleared along the number 3 chair, below the lodge.

The Mt. Hood Meadows winter sports area burst into a furor of activity this summer. Trail and slope clearing was started at the end of May with over-the-snow removal of timber on the 300 foot wide slalom hill. Construction of the maintenance shop and day lodge started in early summer and was completed by late fall. Operations were sharply curtailed by fire restrictions, and for eight days in September, work was shut down completely by a full Forest closure. With the lifting of the closure, towers for the number 1 and number 3 chairlifts were installed. Footings for the towers were poured using helicopters. This was to prevent ground damage to the fragile mountain meadows. The towers were also set by helicopter, taking about ten minutes to set each one. A T-bar and two rope tows were constructed in early December.

Facilities at the new winter sports areas include two chairlifts, two rope tows, one T-bar, a day lodge with coffee shop, dining room, bar, and ski shop, a maintenance building and sanitation and water systems. Scheduled for opening in mid-January, the area will provide new and exciting ski country.



THROUGH THE FOREST SPREAD THE FLAMES: GREEDY, TORRID, DESTRUCTIVE.....

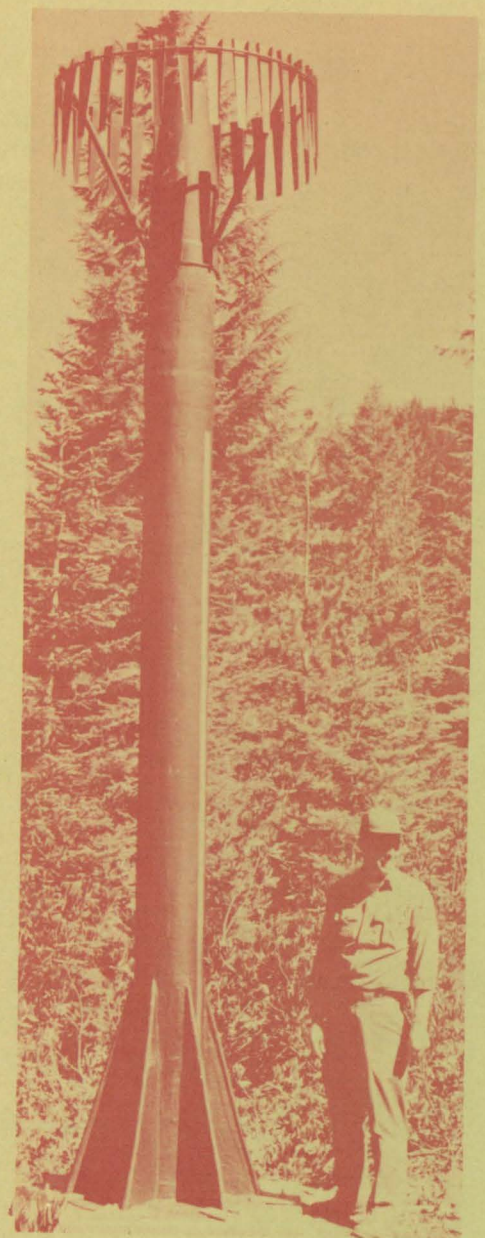
A fire in the Forest is an ugly thing. It interferes with the growth cycle of a major economic resource and decreases its value. It hinders the productivity of the land by burning the topsoil and shatters the cool expanse of green with its blackened streaks.

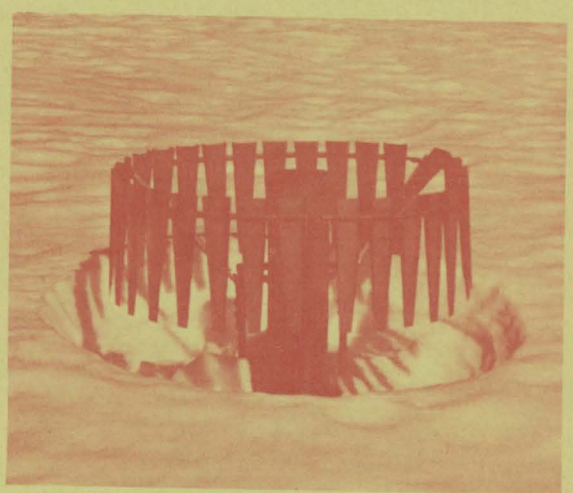
With a succession of 71 days without measurable rainfall, a severe fire situation developed in the Forest. Several scattered dry lightning storms hit the Forest and man-caused fires were on the increase. Rain that accompanied the lightning was not enough to hold the fires in check. As time is the key element in fire fighting, it was necessary to have all manpower and equipment at immediate disposal for dispatching to going fires.

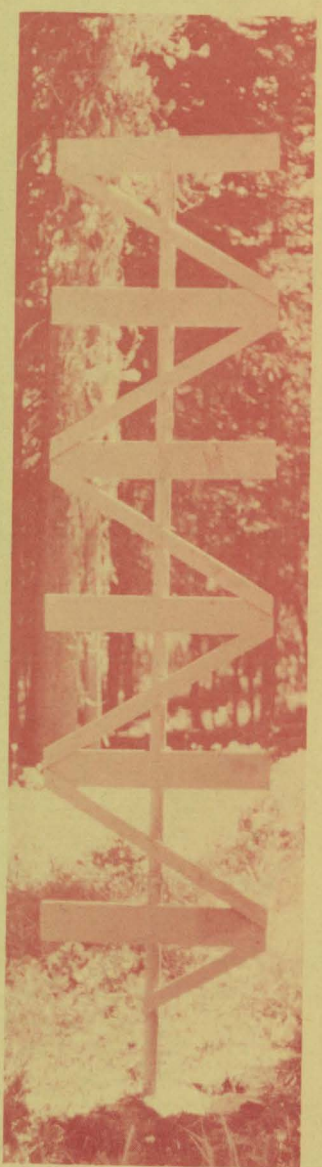
This summer a 4-man helitack crew was used to replace the 12-man interforest suppression crew reassigned to the Malheur Forest. A Hiller 12E helicopter was instrumental in the first attack and follow up of several fires and was useful in informing the public during the Forest closure.

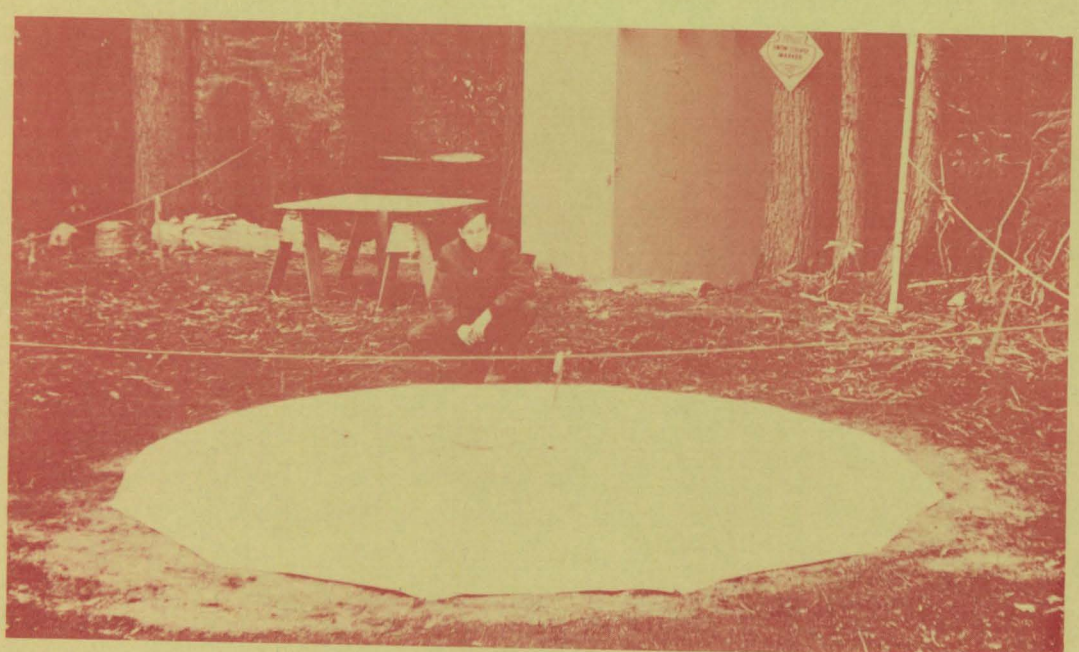
Two 25-man suppression crews were organized at Timber Lake Job Corps Center. They received extensive training on fire fighting at the Redmond Air Center in March. During the summer, they were dispatched Regionwide on several occasions. They spent a total of 22 days suppressing and mopping up various fires.

Our air tanker base at Troutdale mixed and delivered over 92,000 gallons of fire retardant to our and other forests within the Region. This amounted to over 90 loads. Four men from the Mt. Hood and five from the Gifford Pinchot Forest were trained in the mixing operation and manned the plant during the season.









THROUGH THE FOREST FLOW THE WATERS: COOL, REFRESHING, PLENTIFUL.....

Water is a vital resource; it runs our industries, irrigates the farmlands and provides a domestic supply to our municipalities. Water must be clear and pure to be fully used, whether by the homeowner, recreationist or businessman. Water purity often requires resource management far beyond the scope of one single resource. To keep the supply of water clean and never-ending, we must learn all we can about it - take its profile, so to speak.

The Upper Clackamas has been established as one of four barometer watersheds in Region 6. A barometer watershed is designed to give practical answers to watershed management problems. The Upper Clackamas is an area where research findings and hydrologic predictions can be tested on an extensive scale.

The first step in setting up such a watershed is to gather data on the water resource. Water within a watershed is produced by precipitation. The visible result is streamflow. An important, yet invisible water loss occurs through the combined action of evaporation and transpiration. In order to measure the magnitude of precipitation, streamflow and evapotranspiration, various instruments have been installed at strategic places within the watershed.

A climatic station at Ripplebrook records temperature, wind movement, dewpoint, solar radiation and soil moisture and soil temperature. Two recording precipitation gages measure the amount of precipitation falling within 15-minute intervals on a punched tape. The tape is then fed into a translator and is finally printed out on summary statistical forms. Other precipitation gages store the accumulated rain and snow for later measurement.

Snow pillows - liquid filled rubber pillows, 12 feet in diameter - are used to measure the rate of snowfall and also the rate of melt. Pressure exerted on the pillow by the falling snow is converted into inches equivalent of water. Pillows are used in conjunction with a network of snow depth markers from which the depth of snow can be read by an observer in a low-flying airplane.

A network of soil moisture and temperature sensors gives information on availability and amount of moisture for vegetative growth. Stream gages in the barometer watershed measure the depth, areas, velocities and rates of streamflow. The amount of sediment in the stream at the outlet of the barometer watershed is monitored by an automatic pumping sampler which periodically stores a water sample from the river for later sediment analysis.

Information gathered from these instruments will give us indications of patterns, amount and seasonal distribution of the precipitation in the watershed, and the disposition of the water after it reaches the ground. This will assist us in developing watershed prescriptions and help us to determine the effects of land management practices in this and other similar watersheds.

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STATISTICS - 1967

Timber Use

Volume of standing timber	27.6 billion bd.ft.
Annual sustained yield	330.0 million bd.ft.
Timber sold	377.7 million bd.ft.
Value of timber sold	$13,169,587
Value per MBF of timber sold	$34.86
Timber cut	350.1 million bd.ft.
Value of timber cut	$11,495,805
Value per MBF of timber cut	$32.83
Christmas tree cut	18,568
Trees planted, F.Y. 1967	1,541,000
Acres planted, F.Y. 1967	47,742
Acres seeded, F.Y. 1967	491

Fire Control

Fires	192
Lightning caused	87
Railroad	34
Man caused	71
Acres burned	269
Slash disposal accomplished	4,300 acres
Aerial detection hours flown	1,250
Retardant dropped	92,100 gallons (92 trips)

Range Use

Paid grazing permits	14
Cattle grazed under permit	1,040 head
Miles of drift fence	5.9

Improvements

Miles of system roads	2,170.0
Miles of system trails	1,035.0
Bridges constructed	7

Recreation Features

Visitor use days	3,601,000
Campgrounds	115
Special use permits	
Summer homes	568
Winter sports areas	6
Other	270

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